

# AGRICULTURE MARKET BULLETIN 03/23



**Introduction:** Our market bulletin helps inform vendors, farmers and consumers of the types of fresh produce grown and sold for the month by its unit, price and total quantity in NZD\$. For further information, contact Ministry of Agriculture (Corporate Services) on phone number 28711 or email us at [moa.support@cookislands.gov.ck](mailto:moa.support@cookislands.gov.ck)

## Root Crops Sales



Taro and Maniote remain our top root crops sold by vendors this month on roadsides and at the Punanga Nui Market. However, the number of vendors selling decreased along with the quantity by 55% for Taro @ 145.9kgs and 33% @ 55.8kgs for Maniote.

Although not captured in this report, Carrot was the other root crop appearing this month at less than the 50kgs threshold.

Root Crops	March 2023				February 2023	
	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Taro	6	327.0	5.70	1,863.90	11	472.9
Maniote	2	240.0	4.20	1,008.00	6	295.8

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgiINTEL

## Fruits Sales

Whilst Watermelon and Drinking Nuts continue to be popular on the market, we have recorded a decline in quantities this month from 1600kgs in Feb to 1263.3kg for Watermelon and 2,243kgs to 1,586.2kg for Drinking Nuts in comparison.



Of all the fruits reaching over the 100kgs threshold Cucumber, Banana, Pawpaw, Orange, Capsicum and Mango all reported increases compared to previous month, whereas Dragon-fruit, Avocado, Eggplant, Tomato and Pumpkin showed reductions in their market supplies. Tomatoes was the biggest reduction from 497.03kg in Feb to 108kg this month.

Other fruits appearing on the market this month in smaller quantities are Starfruits, Lemon, Snake Beans, Sweet Corn, Bitter Melon, Lime, Mandarin, Custard Apple, Soursop, Passionfruit, Okra, Breadfruit and Grapefruit.

Noticeably this month was the availability of cooked chestnuts sold at the Market and by the Roadside. Over 300kgs were sold averaging \$15.00 a bag of around 700g. Some were selling at \$20.00 a bag of 700g. Despite the price, people were still buying them.

Fruits	March 2023				February 2023	
	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Watermelon	5	1,263.3	5.60	7,074.48	6	1,600.0
Drinking Nut	22	1,586.2	3.50	5,551.70	29	2,243.0
Cucumber	11	638.2	8.00	5,105.28	9	354.9
Banana	23	623.6	5.90	3,679.06	31	569.5
Dragonfruit	9	468.9	5.10	2,391.39	8	777.3
Pawpaw	10	320.4	7.90	2,531.16	13	257.1
Avocado	8	250.8	6.50	1,630.20	17	262.6
Orange	6	199.0	5.60	1,114.40	4	146.0
Eggplant	6	194.3	5.80	1,126.94	4	213.1
Capsicum	4	141.8	8.40	1,191.12	7	104.1
Mangoes	7	129.5	5.90	764.05	7	90.4
Tomatoes	7	108.0	6.80	734.40	6	497.3
Pumpkin	3	102.5	7.00	717.36	6	118.7

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgiINTEL

## Vegetables Sales



Rukau, Pak Choi and Watercress remains our top selling green vegetables since January, even-though it had shown reductions in their harvests from previous months. Lettuce and Cabbage are the only other vegetables appearing on the market in less than 50kgs threshold.

The low production is normal for vegetables these couple of months due to our weather conditions. We look forward to seeing an increase in quantities in the coming months.

Vegetables	March 2023				February 2023	
	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)	Average Price (\$NZ) per Kg	Total Value (\$NZ)	No of Vendors	Total Weight (Kg)
Rukau	7	259.9	12.30	3,196.77	12	289.4
Pak Choi	6	89.7	8.80	789.36	4	57.6
Watercress	2	78.8	13.10	1,032.28	2	100.4

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture, AgiINTEL